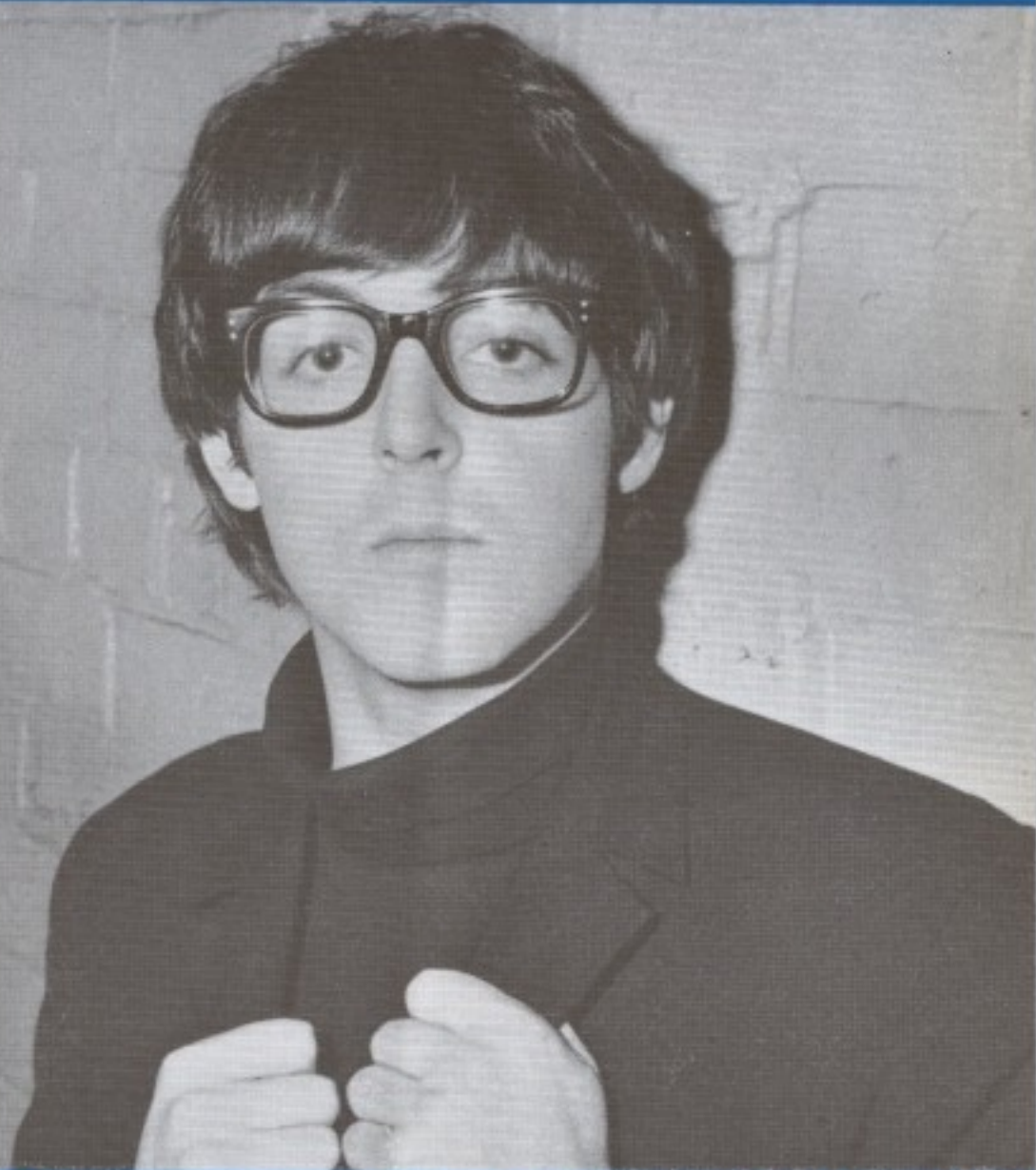


The Beatles

MONTHLY BOOK

No. 32

MAR.
1966
3rd
YEAR



EVERY MONTH

Price ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE

The Beatles BOOK

The Beatles' Own Monthly Magazine

No. 32. MARCH, 1966

EDITORIAL

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Hi!

REMEMBER WHEN "RUBBER SOUL" first hit the disc counters? The verdict by the record reviewers wasn't a unanimous "we like it". In fact one or two critics thought that the new album wasn't up to the boys' usual standard. Just how wrong they were has been proved by the incredible rush of artists into the recording studios anxious to get their cover version of one of the "Rubber Soul" songs out as quickly as possible. In actual fact I believe that not all versions have been released due to the large number which have been offered to the record companies.

ALL THIS IS BECAUSE, right from the start the boys have refused point blank to release anything on disc, which is not up to their very high standards. Before the Beatles appeared on the scene, it was common practice for top stars to push out albums which only had one or two really top-quality songs on them. The rest would be just "reasonable" L.P. material. Because J. P. G. and R. insist on "nothing but the best", buying one of their albums is just the same as getting seven separate singles!!

I RECEIVED LOADS of replies in answer to my request in the January Beatles Book for suggestions as to what you would like the boys to do during the coming year. Six of the best are published this month.

THERE ARE THREE GREAT PICS in this edition, which were taken at the special reception, which Pattie (yes that is the correct spelling) and George gave to all pressmen on the Saturday following their wedding. Unfortunately we went to press too quickly last month to get them in.

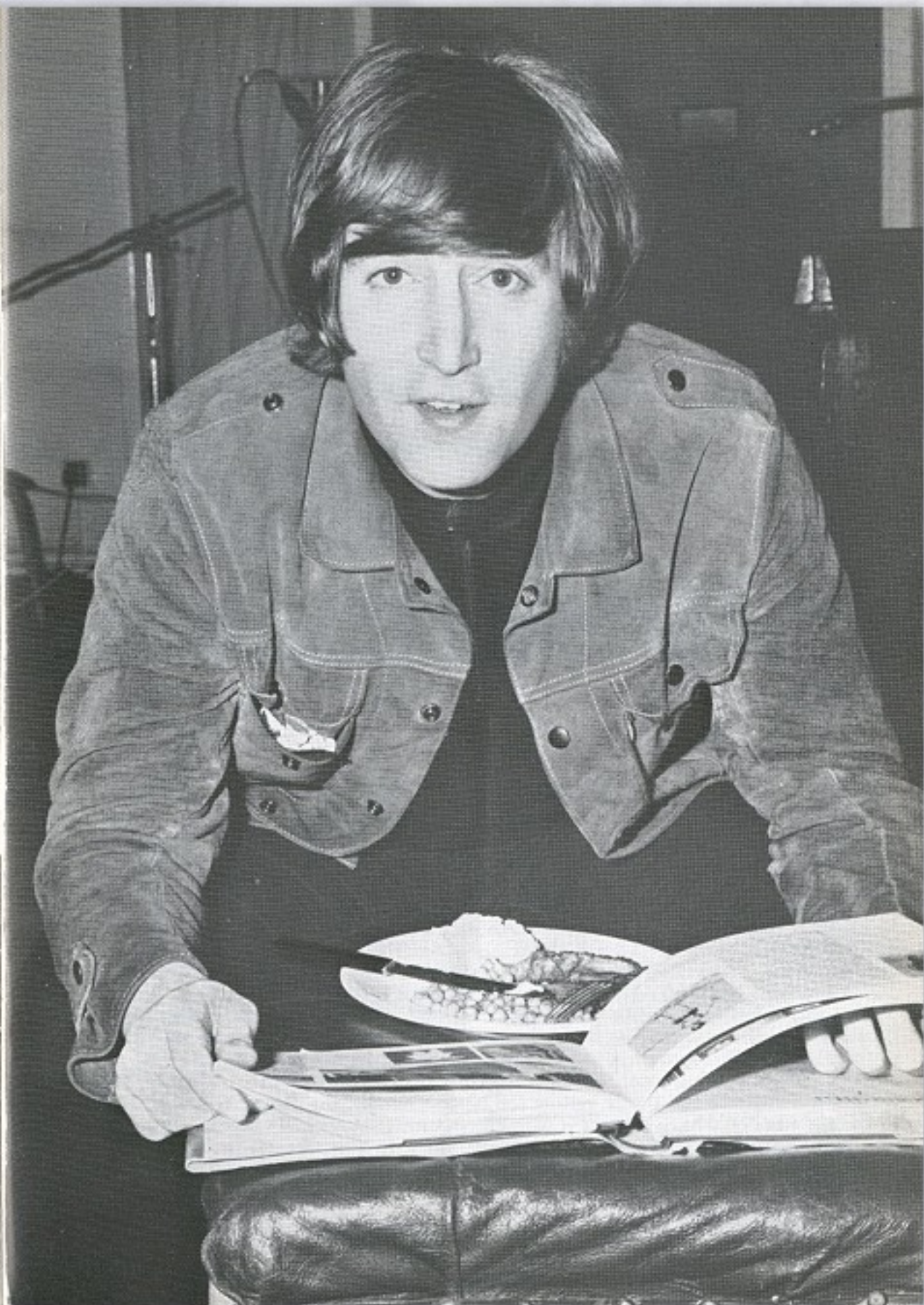
JUST ONE LAST POINT. I'm afraid we're going to have to increase the price of your Beatles Book by three pence starting next month. Sorry I have to do it but, as I'm sure you all know, the price of everything, including paper, printing and so on, goes up all the time and we've got to keep up with it. Anyway I hope I won't have to increase it any more for at least three years. But to make up for it we've got several very special features and pics lined up for inclusion in future issues including a regular page by Neil Aspinall, the person who has been closer to the boys than anyone else during the past hectic years.

See you next month.

Johnny Dean Editor.

P.S. The Beatles Book Xmas Extra is now completely out of print so I'm afraid we can't supply any more copies through the post.

The Beatles are never fussy about where or how they have their meals during recording sessions. John decided to have his steak, mash, and peas on a piano stool on this particular day when the boys were working on tracks for Rubber Soul.





The Official Beatles FAN CLUB

First Floor, Service House, 13 Monmouth Street, London, W.C.2

Fan Club Telephone: London COVent Garden 2332

Beatles (U.S.A.) Ltd., Box 505, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10019

Canada: Miss Trudy Metcalf, 7 Stratton Ave., Scarborough, Ont., Canada
and Anne Feldt, 280 Villeneuve St., St. Eustache, Quebec, Canada.

NEWSLETTER

March, 1966

DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

At the beginning of March you will see, will have just seen, or, must have just missed (according to when you get this month's issue) the most exciting television programme The Beatles have been in. I'm talking about the special "Beatles At Shea Stadium" show, filmed in New York last August when the Boys starred in the largest-ever concert of their career before 57,000 fans. It was a fantastic occasion. We've all read about it but seeing so much of the show in this T.V. programme makes it so much more real.

Here at the Fan Club we've been thinking up a way of giving every one of our members an unusual souvenir of that historic Shea Stadium concert. I can't tell you more for the moment but you'll be reading all about it very soon. The Shea Stadium souvenir will NOT be available to the general public—only to Beatle People who belong to the Official Fan Club. Every existing member who holds a current membership card will receive the souvenir. **SO WILL BRAND-NEW BEATLE PEOPLE WHO APPLY TO JOIN THE CLUB WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS. WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD OPEN THIS OFFER BEYOND THE MIDDLE OF MARCH SO IF YOU ARE NOT A CLUB MEMBER YOU OUGHT TO JOIN RIGHT AWAY. SEND YOUR FIRST YEAR'S MEMBERSHIP FEE (A POSTAL ORDER FOR FIVE SHILLINGS) PLUS A STAMPED-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE TO ME AT THE CLUB H.Q. RIGHT AWAY AND YOU WILL BE ENROLLED AT ONCE.**

SPECIAL NOTE FOR OVERSEAS READERS: ONLY BEATLE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM ARE ELIGIBLE FOR CLUB MEMBERSHIP. THOSE WHO LIVE OUTSIDE THE U.K. SHOULD JOIN VIA THE BRANCH SECRETARY IN THEIR HOME COUNTRY. THE SPECIAL SHEA STADIUM SOUVENIR IS NOT AVAILABLE OUTSIDE THE U.K.

At the end of each month we always count up the number of letters received by each Beatle during the past four weeks. It's amazing how John, Paul, George and Ringo get roughly the same amount of personal mail over the full year even if one gets a lot more in any one month. For instance, February was certainly George's month. If we awarded little tin Beatle Badges to the Beatle getting the biggest bundle, the February badge would go to George—but he'd have to share it with Pattie. Cards, letters and telegrams came in from all over the world from Beatle People who wanted to congratulate the couple on their marriage. Then, only a couple of weeks later, George's collection of birthday cards started to build up as 25 February approached.

Many, many thanks from George to all those who were kind enough to remember his birthday. Right now he's trying to find time to acknowledge as many gifts as possible but



No, there is nothing wrong with our camera. This shot of George was taken through the white railings beside his swimming pool in the gardens of his Esher home.

to send his personal reply to everyone would be an impossible task so everyone at the Club offices is giving him a hand.

We want to appoint a new AREA SECRETARY for London. Indeed this is such a large area with so many Beatle People that it might be a good idea if two friends with plenty of spare time to devote to the task share the responsibility. If you are interested please apply to me in writing, giving as much personal information about yourself as possible. BE SURE TO MARK THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR ENVELOPE WITH THE WORDS "AREA SECRETARY APPLICATION (LONDON)". Applicants must have a London postal address and if two of you are getting together to try for the post, please settle in advance which address you'll use—only ONE address can be published for the London Area Secretary even if she has a very helpful friend assisting her.

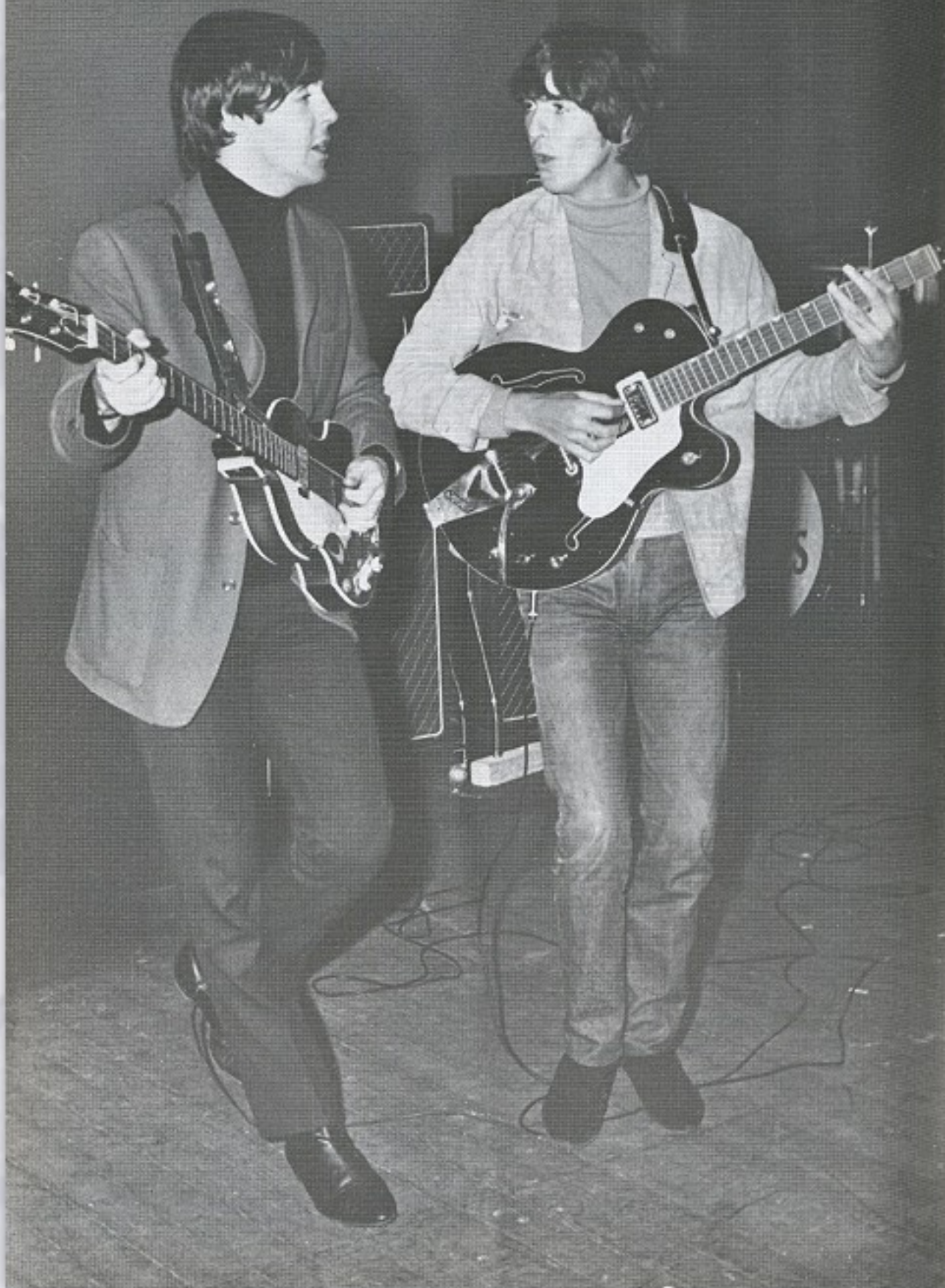
Overseas readers should note the following changes of address for their local branches: NIGERIA—Mr. A. D. Umoren, c/o King's College, Lagos, Nigeria. AUSTRIA—Miss Sylvia Honeder, Franz-Fischer-Strasse 18a/V, Innsbruck, Austria.

Lots of good luck,

Anne Collingham

ANNE COLLINGHAM

National Secretary of The Official Beatles Fan Club.





beatles talk



In this special series FREDERICK JAMES lets his tape recorder listen in on informal conversations between John, Paul, George and Ringo

This Month: Ringo and John

JOHN: Yes, ta, we had a very nice holiday, thank you, and we've come back looking all brown all over except in the parts where the sun didn't get like up the nose and down the throat. Everyone just sat round and watched Ringo's beard grow, which is a very marvellous thing.

RINGO: I gather we missed a good do down at George's place, John.

JOHN: Yes, bit of a party apparently while we were away. I think we'd better decide now to have Monthly Wedding Anniversaries instead of Annual ones. That means George owes us a First Anniversary party for the 24th of February.

RINGO: We saw all that in the papers about George having electric gates or electric walls all around his house. Well, he must have bought a lot of surplus stock from the James Bond studios while we were in the West Indies because it wasn't there at New Year.

JOHN: That was just the papers exaggerating and getting all excited again. I expect Neil or Alf just flashed a torch at them outside the gate and they made up the rest.

RINGO: The gate just looked ordinary last weekend.

JOHN: Of course it was. Still, I must look into the idea of having full gas-fired electric fencing put round my swimming pool. It'll stop all the wild beasts of Surrey having a crafty moonlight bathe and turning me water green!

RINGO: Enough of this madness! What are we going to talk about?

JOHN: Oooh sorry, I thought we'd already started. All that about the gas-fired fence wasn't just careless ad lib, you know. I always prepare my BEATLES TALK with great care.


RINGO: By the time this issue comes out the BBC will be showing the Shea Stadium film. Let's talk about that.

JOHN: Well, we think it's a fabulous film. In colour it's great because all our faces look blue and brown under the floodlighting. It starts with Paul doing "I'm Down" and we all look very sweaty because it's hot in New York in August and, in any case, "I'm Down" was at the very end of our act and we'd been on stage over half an hour by the time that bit was filmed.

RINGO: And there are also bits showing us running about, getting out of long cars and getting into a helicopter. Then you see us looking out of the helicopter at the New York skyscrapers on the way to Shea.

JOHN: The bits in the dressing room look like a prison. All little cells everywhere. Actually it wasn't an ordinary dressing room. It was where the baseball teams change.

RINGO: And so that everybody won't start writing a lot of letters asking about the badges you can see pinned onto us when we're on stage, let me give you the answer before you ask the question—they're genuine Wells Fargo Agent badges. They were given to us while we were riding in a Fargo van on the way to the concert. John stuck his in the back of his cap.

 Paul and George concentrate on rehearsing a bit of harmony.

JOHN: Not at all. I was wearing my head back to front that particular day.

RINGO: Oh, yes. Shea Stadium was the first time we ever used an organ on stage. We'd used it on telly for "Blackpool Night Out" a fortnight earlier and "The Ed Sullivan Show" in New York the day before but not for a live concert.

JOHN: The thing I like about the Shea Stadium film is that everything we do looks larger than life. We were out in the middle of this big baseball pitch on a high platform. All the kids in the audience looked miles away. So if we wanted to

wave or anything like that we had to do it very big so that they could see us. But the film cameras were much closer, and in any case they had these long-distance lenses for the close-ups. So the film shows us leaping up and down like maniacs instead of just waving.

RINGO: The whole thing is a bit special for us. We've seen ourselves on telly plenty of times and we've seen a few tapes of concerts but Shea Stadium was the biggest live show we've ever done—I don't see how we "could" do bigger—and all the camerawork and everything is great.

PERSONAL REQUESTS

Here are just a few of the unusual things that Beatles Book Readers would like the boys to do, in answer to my request for suggestions in my January Editorial.

✱ These are the three £5 winners

✱ Dear Johnny,

I would like the Beatles to come to our school and take it over for just one day. I'd love to see the teacher's reaction. I can't imagine what it would be like for them to take us for Music, History or even Games.

Yours sincerely,

Joan Woollgrove, Age 13, Carlisle.

✱ I would like in 1966, for JOHN to have a hit West End musical. PAUL to play 1st oboe in the Liverpool Philharmonic. GEORGE to record an E.P. of classical guitar pieces and RINGO to open a hairdressers salon in Liverpool.

Julie Bennett, Alfreton, Derbys.

✱ If I won a £5 note,

For writing all these lines,
I'd take the Beatles out one day,
And taste a few sweet wines.
With £4 left, I'd take them,
To a corner bowling alley,
And seeing that there's 5 of us,
We could have a sort of rally.
There's £2 down, and 3 to go,
All spirits riding high,
I'll take them for a nice hot meal,
Of hamburger, chips, & pie.
With £2 left, what can we do?

I know, we'll see a picture,
Who is the one I'll sit beside?
What a flippin' mixture!

And now I have a minging pound,
Enough to buy a drink,
I think it's time THEY took ME out
I deserve it, don't you think?

Yours sincerely,

Brenda M. Edgar, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 3.

Dear Johnny,

Our crazy ambition is that one day, our team of five, (Hilary, Fido, Jonnie, Liz and Peta) could play the Beatles and Brian Epstein at 'Basket Ball'. The winners of course treat the losers to tea!

Yours,

Jonnie Butcher, Peta Mell, Liz Kearsley, Sue (Fido) Wills, Hilary Brown, Northampton.

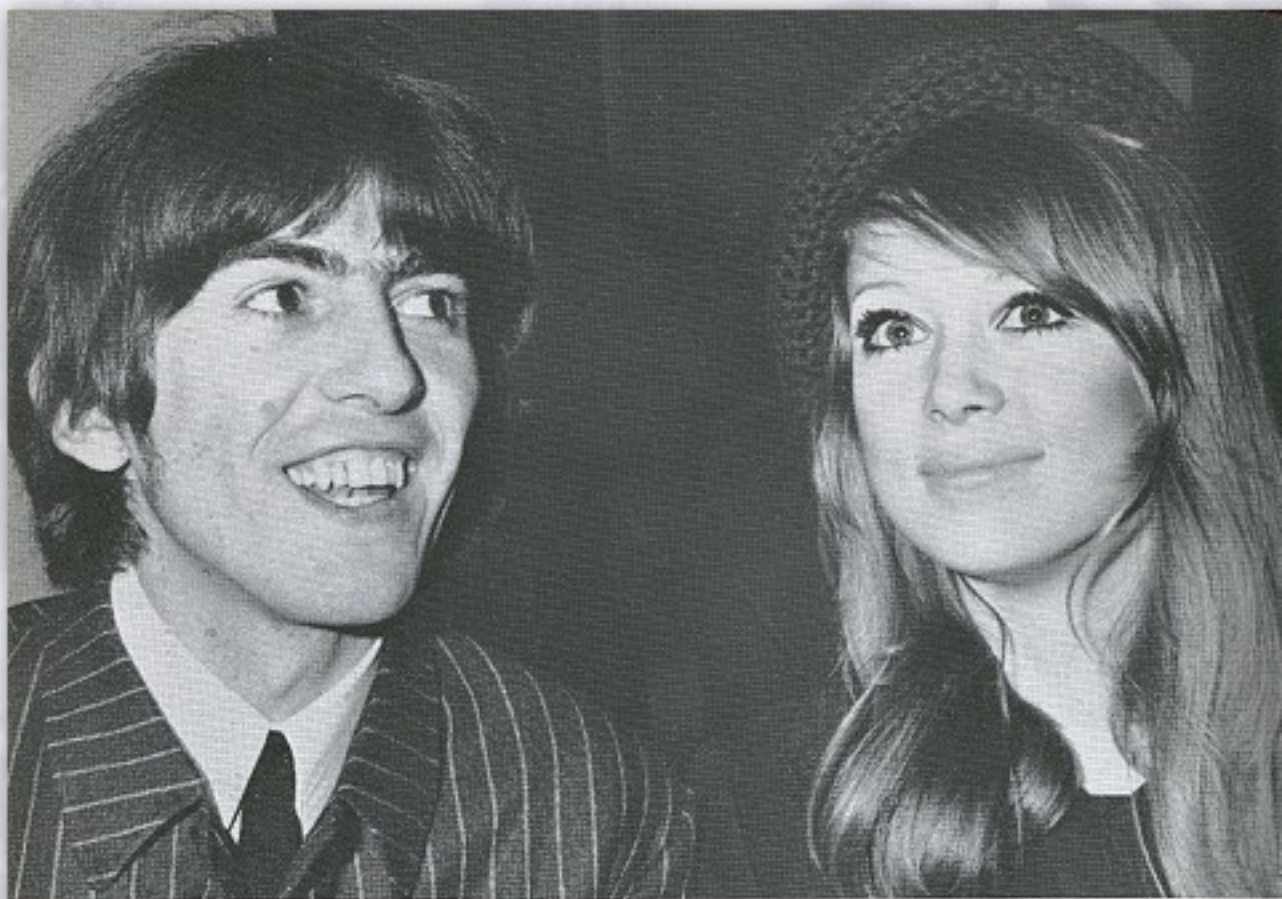
I would like the BEATLES to be present every time I go to the dentist. I go a lot and it would be nice to look into a handsome face instead of my dentists'.

Jennifer Cartwright, Manchester 8.

I'd like the Beatles to take me for a long ride in a five-seater cable car, 1,000 feet above all the screaming fans: then I could have all four of them to myself. (I'm greedy!)

Sheila Marshall, Cranbrook, Kent.







AT PATTIE AND GEORGE'S PRESS RECEPTION

Top Left: Busy answering reporters questions.

Bottom Left: It seemed as though everyone wanted to take pictures, but even in the midst of the confusion, Pattie and George had a smile for the Beatles Book photographer.

Above: Pattie shows her broad gold wedding ring to George's mother and father.

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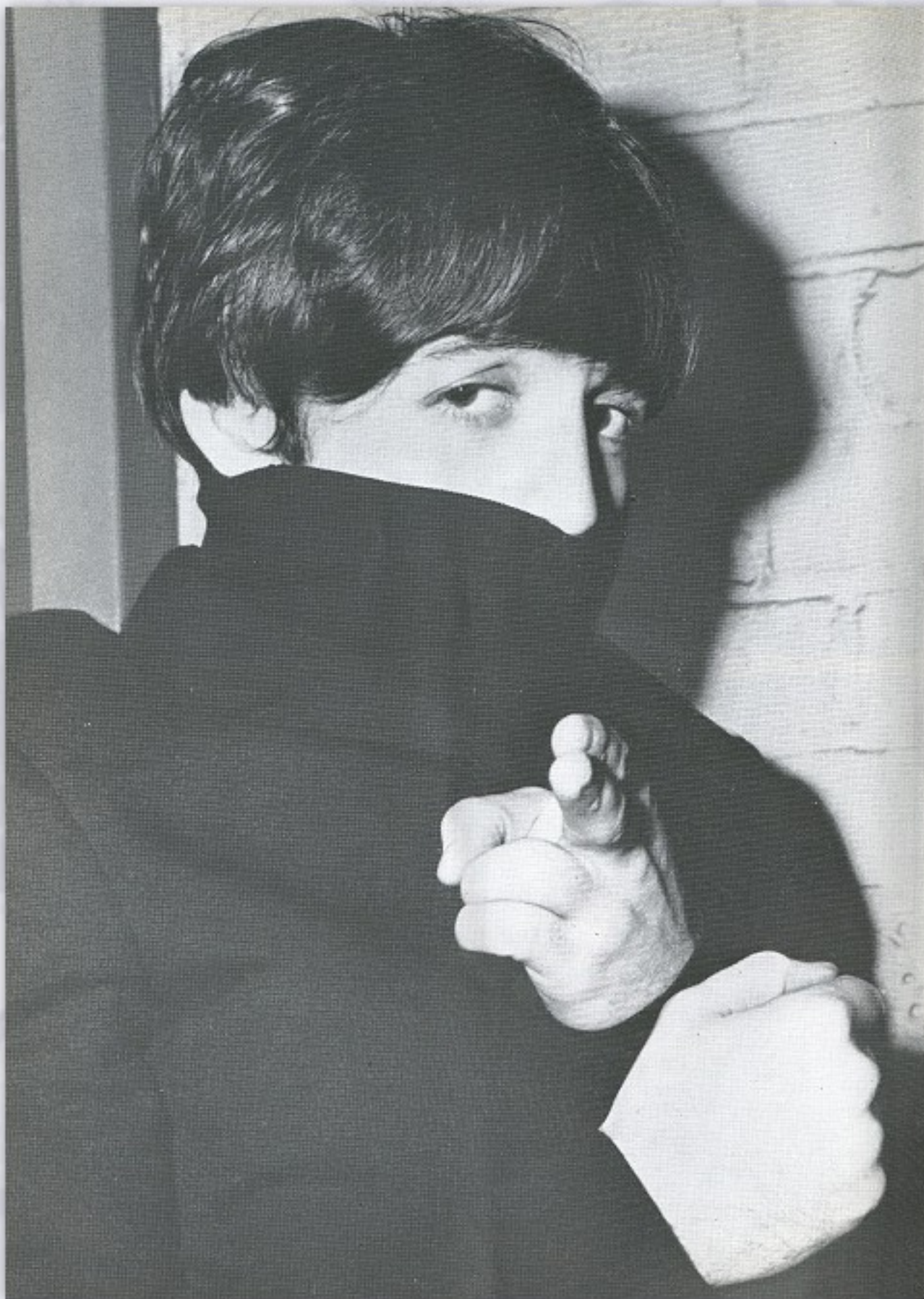
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THE LIVERPOOL FAN CLUB

Part 3

Freda Kelly has very definitely been the mainspring of the Beatles Fan Club—but she didn't start it off. A friend of her's, Bobbie Brown, had the idea for the venture and set it under way in May, 1962.

But, by the beginning of 1963, Bobbie decided to get engaged so, around the same time as Brian Epstein signed the Boys, Freda took over the club.

Bobbie and Freda still see each other regularly to talk over things. I asked Freda if she thought the fan club would have been run better had Bobbie stayed on. "Most definitely" she said modestly, "she was much more efficient than I am". Although, let's face it, Freda doesn't do a bad job. She has qualifications that give her a typing speed of 50 words a minute and a useful shorthand speed as well as a good sense of filing, which is very important in office work.

Freda herself was born in Ireland but moved to Liverpool at the age of 13. She went to a commercial school to learn book-keeping, shorthand and typing and general office duties and left to work in Princes Foods Office Dept. in the Liverpool City Centre.

At lunch-times and in the evenings she used to visit the

Cavern to see The Beatles.

The headquarters of the Beatles Fan Club has been moved, of course, from the North to the South—the office is now in Monmouth Street, London. I asked Freda why, since she started the club, she wasn't working in London.

"I was offered a job there but I couldn't really take it as all my friends and relations are here on Merseyside. But I do visit them in the South occasionally."

Did she ever think the club would become as large as it has? "No. I thought it could really expand to big proportions in this country, but I didn't think it would even turn out to be worldwide."

Every year Freda gets a bonus and a three-week holiday, but she can't take them all at once. One week at a time. "Even then, when I come back, the mail is piled up to the ceiling", she says. Last year she spent part of her holiday in Ireland and also went down to London to see Ringo and Maureen, who was a great help when the club first started.

By the way, and here's good news for the generous fans who over the past few years have sent presents to The Beatles, Freda told me that the sacks of presents she gets from our office in

Westbourne Grove and from the fan club headquarters, is all forwarded to the Beatles personally. So they get every little card, letter or what have you. Sometimes there is a delay but they get there in the end.

The postman does deliver some strange requests in his sackful of letters.

Freda keeps a "Funny File" which has all the letters sent in by fans that are amusing.

And there have been some really funny ones too. One Birmingham girl, some time ago, wrote to Paul asking him to come to tea. She arranged the date and the time, giving him directions exactly how to get to her house. The directions went something like this: Get a No. 1 bus to the corner; turn left at the pub, to the end of the road and so on. I don't think he turned up. Perhaps he might have, had she told him to what part of the town she was referring.

Another one sent a pillow case in with the request for "Ringo to sleep on it then send it back to me". This was done and it was returned with Ringo's autograph on it. The girl was overwhelmed and sent pages and pages of a letter expressing her thanks.

Next month we'll be giving you the last part of this special feature.

◁ Ever been shot? Paul's two fingers are aimed straight at you!



BEATLE Pen Pals

(Addresses are in England unless otherwise stated)

Christine Brasseur, 44 rue de L'Industrie, La Bourie, Belgium, wants p.p. England.
 Adrienne Haig (16), 381 Taleri Road, Wakari, Dunedin, New Zealand, wants p.p. Liverpool, England.
 Rean Jackson (15), 1856 Bathurst Street, Toronto 10, Ontario, Canada, wants p.p. England.
 Mary Tan (15), 41-A Tyrwhitt Road, Singapore 8, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Val Emmerson (18), 73 Stirling Drive, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, Scotland, wants p.p. Australia, New Zealand, Sweden.
 Sandra Garrick (16), 134 Queensway, Scunthorpe, Lincs., wants p.p. America.
 Alyson Gatligh (10), 41 The Crossways, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, wants p.p. Australia, Canada, New Zealand.
 Marion Fuller (17), 97 Nelson Crescent, Thetford, Norfolk, wants p.p. Australia, Canada, America.
 Joan Welsh (15), 47 Friarside Road, Fenham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 4, wants p.p. Canada, Australia.

Irene McKechnie (16), 32 Scott Street, Bootle, 20, Liverpool, wants p.p. America, Czechoslovakia.
 Wendy Gwynne (15), Hotham Avenue, Boddington, W. Australia, Australia, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Philip Buksh (14), 102 Westcott Street, Hull, Yorkshire, England, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Lynette Tulloch (14), 20 Pullen Road, Everton Park, Brisbane 0LD, Australia, wants p.p. England, anywhere.
 Helen Hancock (15), 6 Sandridge Place, South Shore, Blackpool, Lancashire, wants p.p. Canada, America.
 Pauline Edwards (15), 95 Bank Road, Bootle, Liverpool 20, Lancashire, wants p.p. America, Canada.
 Junko Matsumoto (19), c/o Satukiso, 1-713, Omiyamae, Suginami, Tokyo, Japan, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Jan Davies (17), 835 "O" Street, Renton, Washington 98056, U.S.A., wants p.p. anywhere.
 Julie Sims (18), 17 Mapplewells Road, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Patti Burke (14), 3866 Virginia Street, Gary, Indiana, U.S.A., wants p.p. Liverpool, London.
 Judy Williams (15), 31 Heol Gwynno, Llantrisant, Glamorgan, South Wales, wants p.p. England.
 Desmond Kiely (13), 40 Homefar Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9, Ireland, wants p.p. France, Japan, Spain.
 Sarah Moore (12), 30 New Windsor Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Janet Mortimer (16), 46 Elm Grove Road, Hardwicke, Gloucester, wants p.p. England.
 Christine Williams (16), 3 Leafeld Grove, Eccleshill, Bradford 2, Yorkshire, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Zdravko Zima (18), Zagreb 1, Pantoveak 238, Yugoslavia, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Pippa Mickle (14), Dr. Williams School, Dolgellau, Merioneth, Wales, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Louise Wilkins (14), 66 Jesmond Road, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Susan Cooper (17), 38 Sunnyhill Avenue, Derby, wants p.p. Australia.
 Roberta Flocks (17), 7962 Temple Road, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19150, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.

Ringo, Paul, and John wait to hear a play-back during their last recording session.

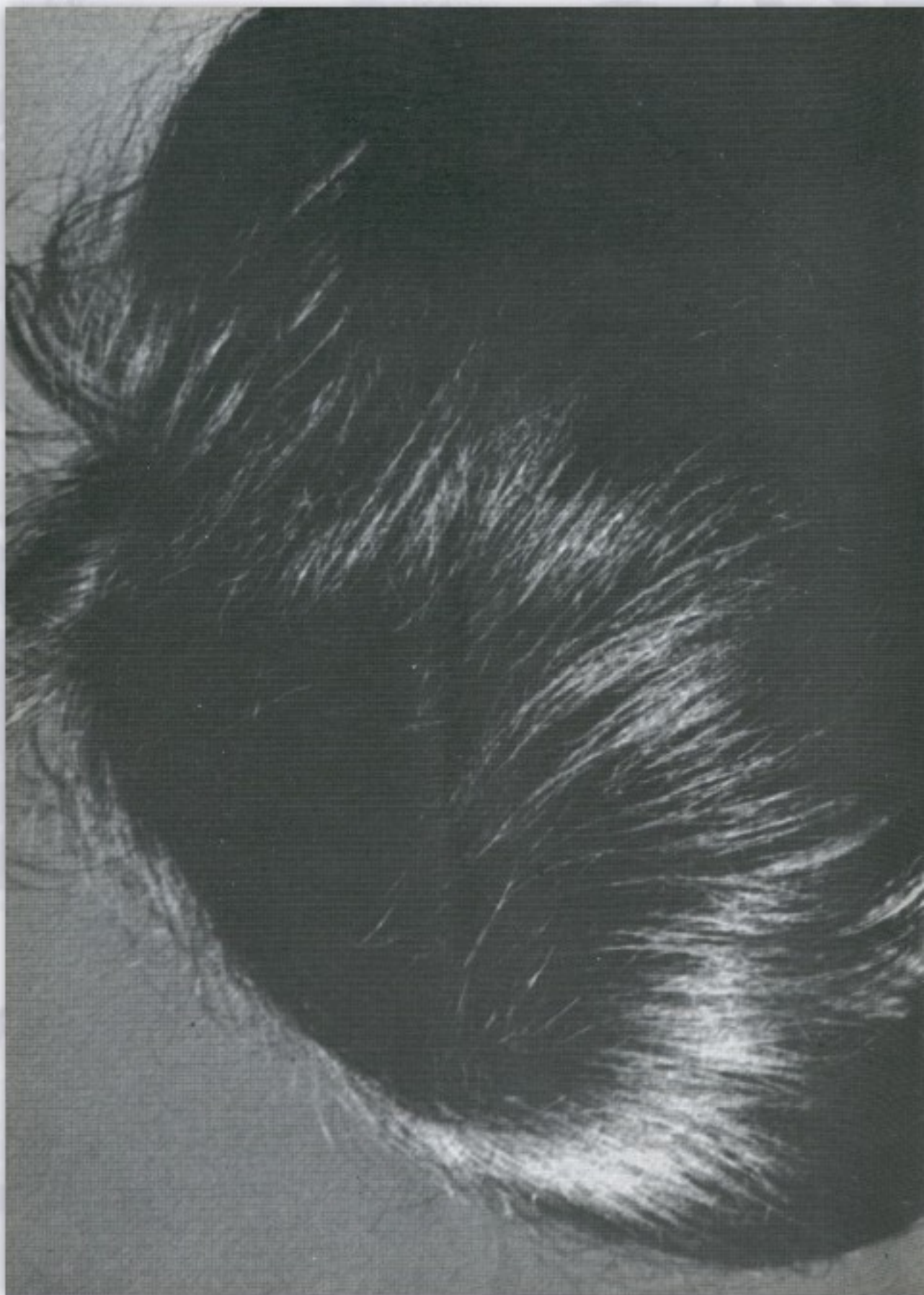




Paul and John work on a vocal to an accompaniment by George, while Ringo takes a break.

Carol Simpson, 13 Edwina Gardens, Billy Mill, North Shields, Northumberland, wants p.p. Liverpool.
 Sally Cartwright (16), 55 Davis Mansions, New Goulston Street, London, E.1, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Eleanor Hendrickson (15), 6 Cardigan Avenue, Fenchurch Street, Hull, Yorkshire, wants p.p. Sweden, Switzerland.
 Eleana Morgan (15), 2042 Parkway Drive, West Laurel Acres, Laurel, Maryland 20810, U.S.A., wants p.p. anywhere.
 Lynne Schofield (14), 48 Kelmecott Crescent, Crossgates, Leeds 15, Yorkshire, wants p.p. London, Liverpool.
 Sandra Nied (14), 24 Finn Street, Rochester, New York, U.S.A., wants p.p. Wales, London, Liverpool.
 Susan Brown (12), 53 Bridge Road, Desborough, Northants, wants p.p. Australia, Denmark, Singapore.
 Trudy Robbins (16), 44 Batemans Road, Gladesville, New South Wales, Australia, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Jewel Lowe (16), 1229 South Catalina Street, Los Angeles, California 90006, U.S.A., wants p.p. anywhere.
 Allyson Holmes (17), 11766 Jocelyn Road, Jacksonville, Fla. 32225, U.S.A., wants p.p. Iceland, Australia, Africa, New Zealand.
 Kathy Crean, 7440 Convair Drive, Alexandria, Virginia, U.S.A., wants p.p. anywhere.
 Glynis Thomas (14), 50 Sylvan Avenue, Wood Green, London, N.22, wants p.p. Sweden.
 Susan Jones (13), 42 Garland Avenue, Rochester, New York 14611, U.S.A., wants p.p. anywhere.
 Sandra Brookes (16), 1a Couchman Road, Alum Rock, Birmingham 8, wants p.p. America.
 Pam Hill (16), 1604 Madison Street, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.
 Angela Meara, 14 Brockham Drive, Gants Hill, Ilford, Essex, wants p.p. America.
 Anne Davey (15), Clarke Street, Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia, wants p.p. England, Canada, Sweden.
 Annette Gilmartin, 24 Hillcrest Drive, Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, wants p.p. Liverpool.
 Wendy Munro, Lord Street, Port Macquarie, New South Wales, Australia, wants p.p. anywhere.

Margaret Ballenden, 12a Hurlingham, Cnr. Currier Narriott Road, Durban, Natal, South Africa, wants p.p. America, Sweden, Australia.
 Pat King (15), 19656 Henry Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44126, U.S.A., wants p.p. anywhere.
 Barbara Meyer (15), (505) Porz-Urbach, b/Koln, Breslauerstr 12, Germany, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Mary Donger (14), 91 Forest Road, Romford, Essex, England, wants p.p. France, Spain, America.
 Kay Nichols (18), 2207 Melbourne, Dallas 24, Texas, U.S.A., wants p.p. Liverpool, London.
 Christine Barry (12), 17 Uist Street, Glasgow, S.W.I., Scotland, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Keiko Hirano (18), Hattkeien Tomimo, Kokura-ku, Kitakyushu-shi, Fukuoka, Japan, wants p.p. England.
 Janet Yost (18), 941 Robinhood Lane, La Grange Park, Illinois 60528, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.
 Barbara Radkow (16), 5271 Flouda Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 78210, U.S.A., wants p.p. anywhere.
 Sandra Romlin (15), 80 Creffield Road, West Acton, London, W.3, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Uschi Kaufmann (17), 4018/Langenfeld, Rosenweg 10, Germany, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Adi Elisabeth Andersen (16), Strandgade 9 IV, Uejle, Denmark, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Suzanne Paquet, 907 Sixth Avenue, Pointe aux Trembles, Montreal 5, Quebec, Canada, wants p.p. Liverpool, London, New York.
 Barbara Barnes (15), 6 Union Street, Lower Broughton, Salford 7, Lancashire, wants p.p. France, Germany, Poland, Spain.
 David Lewis (15), 32 Bishopston Road, Ely, Cardiff, Glam., wants p.p. America, France.
 Lyn Vernon (14), 35 Bleachfield Street, Alcester, Warwickshire, wants p.p. America.
 Susan Ambrose, 56 Chester Street, Werneth, Oldham, wants p.p. Australia, America.
 Nan Ironside, 1 Cottage Brae, Nellfield Place, Aberdeen, wants p.p. America.







LETTERS from Beatle PEOPLE

Dear Beatles,

I'm writing to tell you of an incident which happened early this year when two friends of mine arranged to celebrate their wedding anniversary at a popular hotel in Newcastle. Their names were Cynthia and John Lennon and so the staff at the hotel got the idea that it was *The* Mr. and Mrs. Lennon.

There were flower arrangements and a great lot of excitement when Mr. and Mrs. Lennon asked for a table. But when they arrived they caused great disappointment to everyone. But they both agree that it was a great day thanks to you John, and your name.

Lots of love and luck,
From Margaret Gibbons,
49 Tyne Avenue,
Leadgate,
Consett,
Co. Durham.

P.S.—I'm sorry you got married George but I still love you and I like Pattie very much. Congratulations!

Dear Mr. Dean,

While sitting in a movie theatre a few weeks ago seeing a double feature starring The Beatles, I realized a cold thought. In the scenes shot in the Alps, I'm sure that both cast and crew were far from being overheated, but I think that George suffered the most (aside from Mal Evans).

I'm sure that that fact wasn't of any great significance, but if George ever plans to go skiing, I hope that he remembers to keep his socks underneath his pants, so that he is protected to the utmost.

Leslie Samuels,
16 East 98th Street,
New York 10029,
New York.

Dear John, Paul, Ringo, and/or George,

Regarding the song "Norwegian Wood" ("This Bird has Flown"), which is fabulous, terrific, and not at all bad, we have one question—who sneezed? (There is a sneeze on the record directly before the line "So I looked around and I noticed there wasn't a chair".) Therefore, would you please appease (note the poetic form) our curiosity by telling us who added that extra bit of character and/or soul to the song by sneezing? Thank you.

Also, John, as a flavor to awl ob us by-spectacled

glasses wearers, wood you and/or your face, as i were, bee so kind astoo where yore glasses? 'Cos, honestly, John, (and we're VERY honest) you look *extremely* handsome when you're wearing your windows (notice the buttering-up and/or flattery).

Love and/or kisses and/or
a hug (preferably all)—

Ellie Meindl,
616 E. Euclid Avenue,
Arlington Heights,
Illinois 60004,
U.S.A.

Teri Carrick,
629 N. Hickory Avenue,
Arlington Heights,
Illinois 60004,
U.S.A.

John answers:—

We've had lots of letters about this. There is something odd just before the line you mention but no-one sneezed or anything like that. I think it must be one of the weird noises from George's sitar.

Dear Johnny,

In December I travelled from Glasgow to Cardiff to see my ninth Beatle show in two years during which time I have travelled 5,600 miles just to see the Boys in person.

The first time I ever saw them was at their Christmas show at the Astoria Theatre, Finsbury Park in London on the 2nd of January, 1964 which coincided with the release of that undying single "I Want To Hold Your Hand". Now, nine Beatle shows and two years later also co-inciding with the release of another fabulous single "We Can Work It Out", and from a front row seat at the Capitol Theatre, Cardiff, I can but say that the Boys' stage personality and that undescribable Lennon/McCartney music has superceded what I foresaw of their talents two years ago. Having also met all their families, seen their films countless times and read all their books, infinite as they are, I can say that my ardour as a fan continues to grow day by day.

I would also like to add that the 450 letters I mentioned in Beatles Monthly No. 17 as having received from Beatle fans has now well surpassed the 5,000 mark and have come from almost every country in the world.

Yours gratefully,
James B. Park,
7 Union Street,
Stonehouse,
Lanarkshire.

Dear Paul,

Please answer the following three questions in Beatle Book!

- (1) In Beatle Book 25, p. 13, Norman Smith is talking about "Help!" and he says "there's been only one song that has got us beat—I'm not supposed to mention the title but it's proving a problem for us." Which song was he talking about?
- (2) In another issue you said you gave up the idea of trying to announce each song at live performances because no one could hear you talking anyway. You don't seem to get the idea, Paul! Even though we can't hear each actual word it's always a high spot in the show when you step up to the mike to announce the next number—the entire audience goes dead *wild* when you do that!
- (3) And PLEASE, will you and the rest of the Beatles wear your hair as long as George's was on the last Ed Sullivan show? (there's a pic on p. 10, issue 27). I've NEVER seen him look so fantastically gorgeous. Beatle hair was MEANT to be long!

Love love love love,
Jan Wade, age 18,
6700 Rannoch Road,
Bethesda, Md. 20034,
U.S.A.

Paul answers:—

The song that gave us a bit of trouble was "Help" itself Jan. We recorded it ok but later on when we had to fit it to the film we couldn't. So there are really two versions of the song, one on record and the other on the film track. I can't answer the second question—because it really isn't one; and the answer to No. 3 is 'No!'.

Dear Beatles

Hope you like this poem.

THE FAN'S LAMENT

Four little Beatles having cups of tea,
John got married, and then there were three.
Three little Beatles sitting feeling blue,
Ringo got married and that left two.
Two little Beatles sitting on a wall,
George got married and that leaves Paul.
Poor little Paulie lonely as can be,
Who's he going to marry?
HOPE IT'S ME!

Love from
Wendy Newton,
480 Lees Rd.,
Oldham,
Lancs.

Dear George,

I just heard that you and Pattie got married. Congratulations! I've been waiting for this day for one and a half years. I figure it this way: when a person gets married it's one of the happiest moments in his life. To see you at your happiest would make me very happy too! Best of luck in the future.

Beth Mullen,
131 Fort George Avenue,
New York 10040,
New York.

George answers:—

Thanks very much for your letter Beth, and to everyone else who wrote to us after the wedding. Pattie and I would like to repeat what Johnny Dean put in his editorial last month. Thanks for everything. I said I'd let you all know about it when it happened, didn't I?

Dear Paul,

Please could you settle an argument for me? We were playing "RUBBER SOUL" at our Youth Club last Sunday and we started arguing about the words of the first line of "NORWEGIAN WOOD". Some of us, including me, thought that it said "I wanted a girl", others thought "I once met a girl" was the correct version and some thought it said "I once had a girl". We played the track through four times but still didn't agree.

Pat Wright,
Allestree
Derby.

Paul answers:—

It's "I once had a girl" Pat.

Dear Beatles,

I've been buying your monthly mag. now for over a year. BUT, in all the time, not one letter of thanks has been printed. Thanks, that is to the person or people who work hard to supply the mag. with ever changing photos. So may I now thank them very much for the splendid photos that appear in every issue of the "Beatles' Monthly Mag."

I'm sure everyone who reads it agrees!

Love to all,
Pearl Armarto,
34-36 High Street,
Sheerness,
Kent.

Johnny Dean answers:—

That's very nice of you Pearl. But we've got four wonderfully photogenic Beatles to work on so it's not very difficult.

I hope we've spelt your name correctly, it was very difficult to read on your letter.







BEHIND THE SPOTLIGHT

TWO YEARS AGO

by Billy Shepherd and Johnny Dean

So those incredible Beatles returned from the States, paused on the gangway of their stratocruiser at London Airport, let the sounds of a tumultuous welcome soak in their ears—and Paul nudged John and said quietly: “Despite all that welcome in the States, this is the reception that really matters.”

Same Sentiments

This, remember, was March, 1964—two years ago. And the sentiments of the Beatles ever since have not changed. No cheers sound better to them than the cheers of their own British fans.

They came back to a rather chilly Britain, ready to start work on their first major movie, “A Hard Day’s Night” . . . only it didn’t have a title when they first walked onto the set. We talked, on the opening day, to producer Walter Shenson, who still looked a bit bemused at the clowning, gagging attitudes of the Boys. A million words have been written about this movie—and it was a world box-office smash as pop historians will always note—but Shenson’s quotes at this time bear repetition because of the stark truth of them.

He told us: “It’s going to be a colourful film, but that poses no problems because I’ve never met four more colourful boys. I feel black-and-white is the right medium because, in some curious way, the Beatles themselves are black-and-white characters. And even at this early stage I’ve a prediction. Ringo Starr may be rather the backroom boy of the four on their stage appearances, but I’m sure he’s going to make tremendous impact in the film.”

Dead right all the way. And the filming started with the Beatles travelling on a

train for eleven hours a day, setting out for the West country from London. Paul, putting on a worried expression for the benefit of the cameraman, said: “I only hope it’s a corridor train!” It was, of course. And the food arrangements were fine, too. A typical lunch menu, on the move, would be roast pork, tomato soup, sweet, stacks of biscuits and cheese.

It was hard work, though. Scenes were shot and re-shot, hour after hour. One of the most experienced members of the cast was Wilfred Brambell, alias Steptoe Senior, who earlier had some interesting things to say about the Beatles. He told us: “Filming is a difficult medium because the repetition of scenes means you can easily lose concentration. To be honest, I was worried about how someone like myself would fit in with these Beatles—I liked their music but I was no expert and I felt the whole thing could easily become a fiasco. Instead, they positively amazed me with their cool and professional approach. Of course they were nervous. They felt, I think, rather shy in front of the cameras . . .”

Shy? Well, George told us: “Working to a big audience is fine because you can gauge a performance—you can hear the rewards. Playing to a handful of technicians you get the feeling you’re making a mug of yourself. I felt sometimes I wouldn’t mind if somebody booted us, just so we could hear something.”

One morning, on the same train, John turned up with a broader grin than usual. Reason was that he’d just had some advance copies of his first book: “John Lennon In His Own Write”. The other Beatles, of course, had already read the contents, but

Four harassed Beatles talking to the producer at Ready Steady Go in March 1964. They had just arrived at the T.V. studio after dashing across London from the film studios.



George said how impressive it was to see all the drawings and stories there in the same bound covers.

And as writers posed the eternal question "How Long Can The Beatles Last?", the Boys were getting extremely enthusiastic about the single due out on March 20—"Can't Buy Me Love", backed with "You Can't Do That".

Top side, of course, was a vocal vehicle for Paul—he and John had written the song at late-night sessions in Paris during January. The "B" side was one of the items recorded there in French studios, under the ever-present control of George Martin. George Harrison hoped that people would realise he was playing twelve-string guitar for the first time on record for the flip side. It was, incidentally, a guitar he'd been given while in America and he explained how he felt a twelve-string gave extra depth to a group sound.

First Day, Gold Disc

Hearing figures of sales from America, one wondered if anything could halt the flow of Beatle-sterics. In one chart there they had top four positions in the singles' chart: "She Loves You", "I Want To Hold Your Hand", "Please Please Me" and "Twist and Shout". And the album "Meet The Beatles" had audited sales figures of 3,600,000 copies, already well on the way to becoming the biggest-selling LP of all time. In America, incidentally, Capitol were coping with advance orders of 1,600,000 on "Can't Buy Me Love"—and announced they were going to claim a Gold Disc on the very first date of official release. Again, this had never happened before, not even to Elvis Presley.

But just one nagging doubt hit the Beatles. Did all this American idolatry mean that they could lose a bit of popularity with the British fans? Did, in fact, world-wide acclaim tend to damage their status with the fans who originally discovered the Boys?

The answer came in an advance order for the single of nearly a million in the week before release. Disc-jockeys, handed advance copies, generally liked the record but didn't think it was the Boys' best. Pete Murray went so far as to say the Boys were obviously

very unselfish because they gave their best songs to other people, like Peter and Gordon.

So "Can't Buy Me Love" passed into pop history. It'd been recorded on George's 21st birthday and he put it down to being the most memorable birthday he'd ever had.

It was in the middle of March that news came through that Jack Good, dynamic telly-producer who had gone to find further fame in the States, was going to produce a one-hour spectacular featuring the Beatles. It was due to start in April and would be nationally networked.

The Beatles, realising that being in film studios all day every day was depriving the fans of "contact", insisted on making television appearances—they got a few hours off during March for "Ready Steady Go" and later for "Top Of The Pops".

Incidentally, in March, '64, the Beatles heard that they were to undertake, in August, the biggest tour of one-nighters and concerts yet devised for British entertainers in the States. "Seems they must have liked us after all", grunted John. Only kidding, of course. And a "black-market" disc sought after in Britain by fans at this time was a German chart-topper—the Beatles singing "I Want To Hold Your Hand" in German. The accents were dubious; the beat was marvellous!

On the film set, somebody asked the Beatles if it was true they couldn't read music. Told it was, the person involved said that he found it hard to believe. And just for a moment John got quite giggled. Said he: "There are too many blokes going round saying that there's no musicianship about being in a beat group. I've studied lots of groups and I believe they are very musicianly. Mostly it's the clever-clever arty guys who knock the beat, but I can tell 'em simply to shut up and keep their opinions to themselves. Being able to read music doesn't mean anything at all."

And one other note for the rumour-mongers. As far back as March, '64, Paul was denying (on the set of "Ready, Steady Go") all stories that he was married to Jane Asher. But more of that next month... and more of our special behind-the-scenes reminiscences of life with the Beatles.







I'M LOOKING THROUGH YOU

Written and Composed by **JOHN LENNON** *and* **PAUL McCARTNEY**

I'm looking through you
Where did you go
I thought I knew you
What did I know

You don't look different
But you have changed
I'm looking through you
You're not the same

Your lips are moving
I cannot hear
Your voice is soothing
But the words aren't clear

You don't sound different
I've learnt the game
I'm looking through you
You're not the same

Why tell me why did you not treat me right
Love has a nasty habit of disappearing overnight

You're thinking of me
The same old way
You were above me
But not today

The only difference
Is you're down there
I'm looking through you
And you're no-where

Why tell me why did you not treat me right
Love has a nasty habit of disappearing overnight

I'm looking through you
Where did you go
I thought I knew you
What did I know

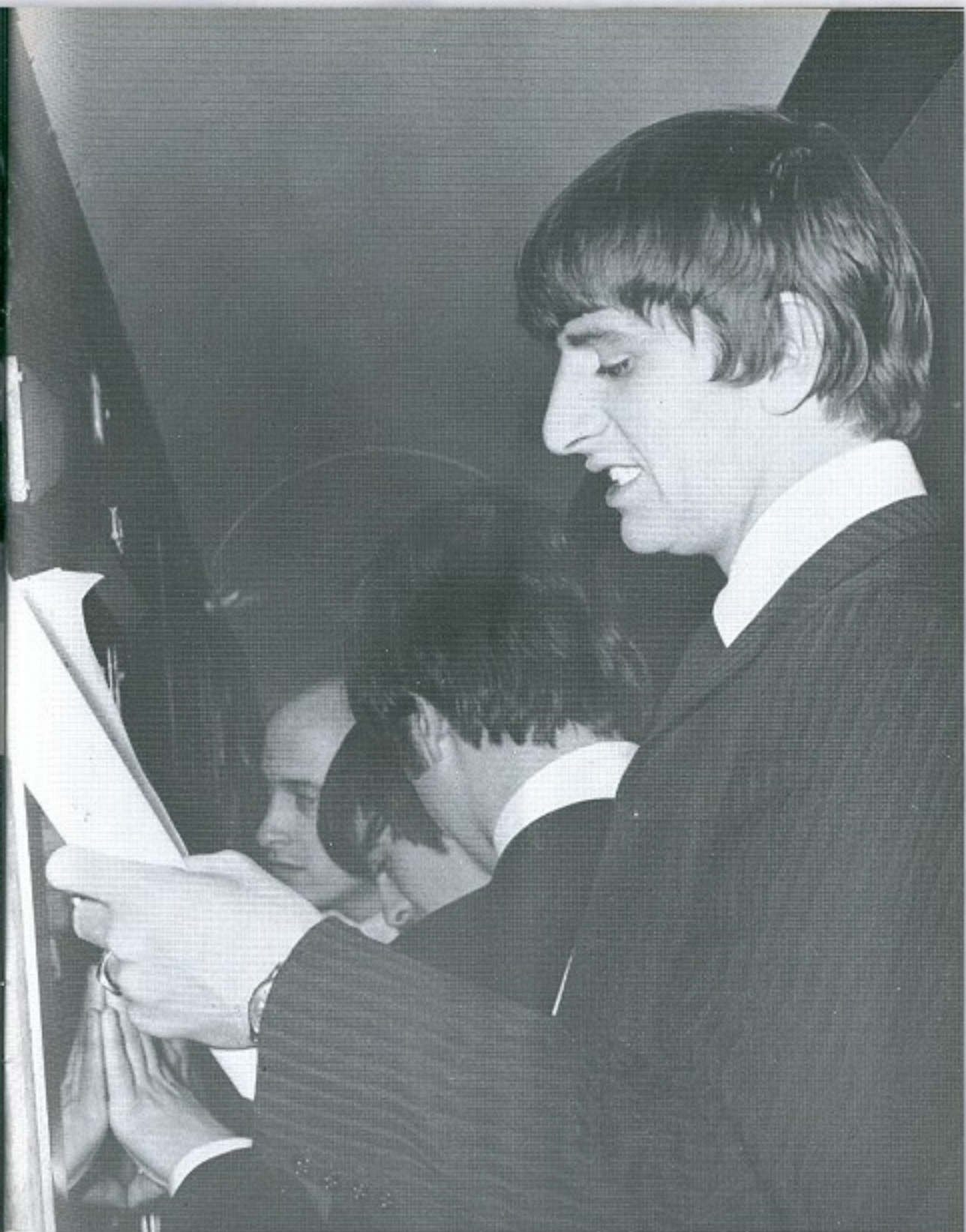
You don't look different
But you have changed
I'm looking through you
You're not the same



Above. The boys waiting to shoot another scene for their *Hard Day's Night* film in 1964. Pic was taken in a Notting Hill Gate hall, which was being used inside, as a film crew canteen and outside, as a Police station.

Below. Another '64 *Ready Steady Go* pic. Paul examines John's Rickenbacker guitar while Ringo draws moustaches on the boys faces stuck all over one of the Studio walls.





A quick script conference in the corridor of the train on which the boys filmed those early scenes for *A Hard Day's Night*.





PLAYING WITH MILLIONS

What did John and Ringo do all the time they were in the West Indies? No, they didn't spend all their days swimming, water-skiing, or sun bathing. According to John, most of their days were spent playing Monopoly!

Whenever they go anywhere abroad for a holiday now, they always make a point of allowing all the local photographers to take pictures immediately they arrive. To quote John, "They are going to try and take some of us anyway, so why not let them have a good bash at the start and get it over with."

SCRIPT SURPRISE

At long last Walter Shenson reports that he has found a film script which might be suitable for the boys. But, at the time of going to press, none of the Beatles have actually read it so we can't give you any more definite details as to when shooting may start. One surprise though . . . the new script is basically a Western!

FUTURE DATES

At the moment, the Beatles intend to tour the United States this year in the late summer and there is also the possibility that they will visit Japan. But everything now depends upon the film. That's got to be "in the can" before they can do anything else.

THIRD BOOK

Due to the fantastic success of *In His Own Write* and *A Spaniard In The Works*, the book world is eager to have another John Lennon collection of writings. But it looks as though it will be sometime before he will be able to finish his third book. Says John: "Ideas can't be thought up to order. You've just got to sit tight until they come. Also I don't want the new one to be exactly the same as the others so I'm going to wait until it's finished and I'm satisfied with it."

Ringo, Mal and Neil playing footsie during a break in recording. The person on the right that we've had to cut off is the Beatles' driver Alf.

Neither House Finished Yet

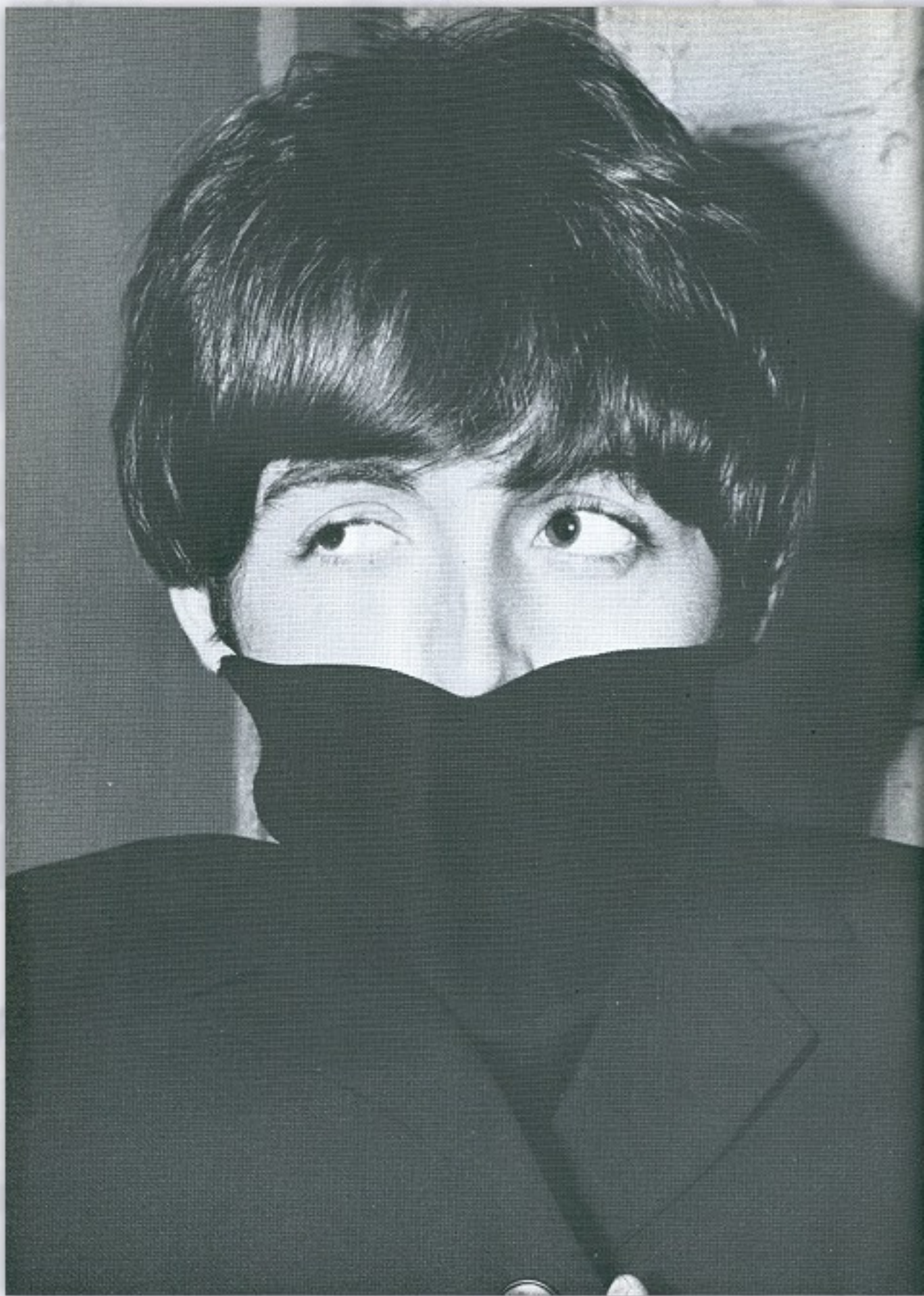
Both Paul and Ringo are still having house trouble. Paul's new London house was supposed to be ready for him to move in just after last Christmas, but he told us that the decorators are still working there, and it rather looks as if he will not be able to get in until sometime in March.

Ringo's Weybridge home is being completely modernised by his own building firm, Brickly Builders, and in order not to waste any time travelling to and from work, all his craftsmen live in a caravan in the garden. But boss Ringo is getting a little annoyed because they seem to be taking so long over the job. However, everyone who has visited his home has been knocked out with the results of all the work so far.

MARCH SESSIONS

As soon as George returns from his Barbados holiday, the Beatles will be going into the E.M.I. Studios to start working on songs for their next film. They expect to be recording continuously for about two weeks, starting around the beginning of March.

If they go ahead with the Western film idea, all the boys feel that at least some of the songs will have to have a Country and Western flavour. But they are still discussing the question of what songs to do and anything can happen once they get in the recording studios.





"This is one thing I can do with my eyes closed", remarked John as he signed his name on one of the office walls in E.M.I.'s London Headquarters.

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